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A MASTER OF FOX-HOUNDS OF 1827
LORD SOUTHAMPTON

THE LOTUS MAGAZINE

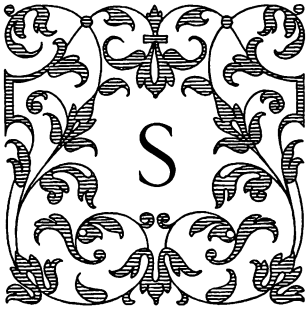
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FOX-HUNTING AND THE HORSE

Introduction



Successful have been the special issues of THE LOTUS that following the "Out-of-Door," "Water" and the general "Sports" numbers of the last volume of the magazine, the present issue is devoted to Fox-Hunting and the Horse.

These subjects, like the issues devoted to Art, are treated in "the Lotus way," as it is now familiar to its readers. THE LOTUS cheerfully resigns to other magazines the policy of being madly up-to-date. If people like to see the absurdities of facial expression and pose in those pictures of themselves that result from being snapshotted, they are certainly welcome to gratify that taste. THE LOTUS avoids all such exaggerated personalities. It seeks to give to its presentation of any subject a charm, all its own, of appearance and manner. And so, in treating of the Fox-Hunting, it has gone to the England of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, reproduc-

ing some of the fine old engravings of the sport and among other things, adapting to its purpose the notable description of a Fox-Hunt written, in 1871, by Peter Beckford. This Beckford was a Master of Fox-Hounds and the first English writer to treat of the sport with a genuine literary touch. It will add to the interest in him that his portrait is one of the group, "Ralph Izard and His Friends," painted by Benjamin West and owned by The Brook club, one of the patrons of THE LOTUS, a fact making the Beckford adaptation singularly appropriate.

As Beckford was a M. F. H. who wrote, so Richard Newton, Jr., is a M. F. H., who paints. His portraits of American fox-hunters will be found a handsome feature of the present issue of THE LOTUS. Mr. Newton is M. F. H. of the Suffolk County Hunt. The article on "The Music of the Hunt," with its reproductions of many of the elaborate French hunting calls, is considered a most unusual contribution to the subject of fox-hunting. "From the Egyptian Horse to the English Hackney," also is most interesting.

LORD SOUTHAMPTON, AS A MASTER OF THE HOUNDS

CHARLES FITZROY, Baron Southampton, of Southampton, in the County of Hants, was born September 25, 1804, and succeeded to his father, the second Lord, on the 24th day of June, 1810.

The Quorn country was taken possession of by Lord Southampton in 1827, when it was nearly as full of foxes as of fox covers, and he made quite as good a start as could be expected with about seventy couples of hounds, collected from different kennels, but still all the right sort. His Lordship also entered with great spirit into all the minutiae of his new undertaking; going through the cub-hunting with his men, and reckoning his twenty brace of noses on his kennel door, before regular hunting commenced. Lord Southampton made a good finish of his first season, rendering himself very popular in the country. The year suc-

ceeding to that in which he made his debut as Master of the Quorn hounds, his country was nearly stripped of foxes. That is to say, the covers of the Laughton Hills, Barkby, Queenborough, Langton, Cowdale, and others, were cleared of them. That this, however, had nothing to do with the character or conduct of Lord Southampton as a Master, is proved according to "Nimrod," by the fact of the same blunder having been committed at some of the Pytchley covers, then hunted by the famous Mr. Osbaldeston. It afterwards appeared that a well-organized gang of fox-stealers had traversed parts of the two adjoining counties with traps, wires, and nets for the purpose of supplying with Leicestershire and Northamptonshire foxes, masters of other counties who entertained the notion, that a cross from the crack counties would improve their own sorts.

PARAPHRASE BY A
MASTER OF THE HOUNDS

Si j'avance, suivez moi; si je recule,
Tuez moi; si je tombe, vengez moi,
Henri de la Rochejaquelein.

Follow, when I take the lead;
Pass me, when I fail in speed;
But I pray you, one and all,
Jump not on me, when I fall.